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BRITISH MAN ARRAIGNED ON CHILD PORNOGRAPHY CHARGES

TUCSON, Ariz. - David Hibble, 47, a permanent resident alien from London, England, was arraigned here for possession and attempted transportation and shipping of child pornography stemming from a two count indictment that was returned on July 20, 2005 by a federal grand jury. Hibble was arrested at the Los Angeles International Airport on November 10, 2005 upon his return to the United States. A U.S. Magistrate judge ordered Hibble's detention during a hearing on December 14, 2005.

The indictment alleges that on October 7, 2004, in Tucson, Ariz., Hibble possessed over 600 images depicting minors engaged in sexually explicit conduct including images of minors under the age of 12. The indictment further alleges that on August 4, 2004, he attempted to transport and ship in interstate commerce certain images of child pornography.

A conviction for attempted interstate shipping and transportation of child pornography carries a maximum penalty of 20 years in prison, a \$250,000 fine or both. In determining an actual sentence, U.S. District Court Judge David C. Bury will consult the advisory U.S. Sentencing Guidelines, which provides appropriate sentencing ranges. The judge, however, is not bound by those guidelines in determining a sentence.

An indictment is simply the method by which a person is charged with criminal activity and raises no inference of guilt. An individual is presumed innocent until competent evidence is presented to a jury that establishes guilt beyond a reasonable doubt.

The investigation preceding the indictment was conducted the FBI. The prosecution is being handled by David P. Flannigan, Assistant U.S. Attorney, District of Arizona, Tucson, Ariz..

CASE NUMBER: CR-05-1410-TUC-DCB(HCE)

RELEASE NUMBER: 2005-219(Hibble)